



**COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
DEPARTMENT OF AUDITOR-CONTROLLER**

KENNETH HAHN HALL OF ADMINISTRATION
500 WEST TEMPLE STREET, ROOM 525
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90012-2766
PHONE: (213) 974-8301 FAX: (213) 626-5427

J. TYLER McCAULEY
AUDITOR-CONTROLLER

December 28, 2006

TO: Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky, Chairman
Supervisor Gloria Molina
Supervisor Yvonne B. Burke
Supervisor Don Knabe
Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich

FROM: J. Tyler McCauley 
Auditor-Controller

SUBJECT: **GROUP HOME PROGRAM MONITORING REPORT – FERREE'S
GROUP HOMES, INCORPORATED, FERREE'S SITE ONE AND SITE
FIVE GROUP HOMES**

We have completed a review of Ferree's Site One and Site Five Group Homes (Group Home or Agency) operated by Ferree's Group Homes, Incorporated. The Group Homes contract with the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) and the Probation Department (Probation).

Ferree's Site One and Site Five Group Homes are each six-bed facilities, which provide care for boys ages 8-17 years who exhibit behavioral, social, and emotional difficulties. At the time of the monitoring visit, Ferree's Site One Group Home was providing services for one DCFS child, four San Bernardino County children, and one Riverside County child. Ferree's Site Five Group Home was providing services for one DCFS child, three Riverside County children, and two San Bernardino County children.

Ferree's Site One and Site Five Group Homes are located in Riverside County.

Scope of Review

The purpose of the review is to determine whether the Agency is providing the services as outlined in their Program Statement. Additionally, the review covers basic child safety and licensing issues, and includes an evaluation of the Agency's Program Statement, internal policies and procedures, child case records, a facility inspection, and interviews with children placed in the Group Home at the time of the review.

"To Enrich Lives Through Effective and Caring Service"

Interviews with children are designed to obtain their perspectives on the program services provided by the Agency, and to ensure adherence to the Foster Youth Bill of Rights.

Summary of Findings

Generally, the Agency is providing the services as outlined in their Program Statement. The Agency needs to address a few deficient areas.

Both Group Homes need to include the placement workers as part of the treatment team, and input from the child in the development and implementation of the Needs and Services Plans.

Ferree's Site One Group Home needs to assist all children in creating and maintaining photo albums/life books.

Attached is a detailed report of the review.

We discussed our report with the Agency's management. In response to the recommendations made in the report, the Agency's management completed a corrective action plan (attached) which we approved. We thank the management and staff for their cooperation during our review.

If you have any questions, please contact me, or have your staff contact Mike Pirolo at (626) 293-1110.

JTM:MP:CC:dl

http://auditor.co.la.ca.us/group_home.asp

Attachments

c: David E. Janssen, Chief Administrative Officer
Patricia S. Ploehn, Director, DCFS
Robert B. Taylor, Chief Probation Officer
Phil Ferree, Executive Director, Ferree's Group Homes, Incorporated
Public Information Office
Audit Committee

**Ferree's Group Homes, Incorporated
Ferree's Site One Group Home
49991 Fuller Avenue
Cabazon, California 92230-3824
Phone: (909) 849-2338
License Number: 330908170
Rate Classification Level: 11**

I. Facility and Environment

Method of assessment – Observation

Comments:

Ferree's Site One Group Home is located in a residential community. The exterior of the Group Home is well maintained. The front and back yards are clean, and adequately landscaped.

The interior of the Group Home is well maintained. The common quarters are neat and clean. There is adequate furniture and lighting in the Group Home. The Group Home provides a home-like environment.

Children's bedrooms are well maintained. The rooms are clean and orderly, and have age-appropriate personalized decorations. There is adequate furniture, lighting, and storage space. Window coverings and window screens are in good repair. The mattresses are comfortable, and the beds all have a full complement of linens. Children's sleeping arrangements are appropriate.

The Group Home maintains age appropriate and accessible recreational equipment. There are also board games, a TV, and a DVD player. Books and resource materials, including a computer with a variety of programs, are also available.

The Group Home maintains a sufficient supply of perishable and non perishable foods.

Recommendations

There are no recommendations for this section.

II. Program Services

Method of assessment – Review of relevant documents and interviews

Sample size: One

Comments:

The child meets the Group Home's population criteria as outlined in their Program Statement. The child was assessed for needed services within thirty days of placement.

The Needs and Services Plans (NSPs) are current, comprehensive, and include short and long term goals. However, the group does not include the placement worker as part of the treatment team, and input from the child in the development and implementation of the NSPs.

Case files reflect adequate documentation to show that the child is receiving treatment services.

Recommendation

1. Ferree's Group Home management include the placement worker as part of the treatment team, and input from the child in the development and implementation of the NSPs.

III. Educational and Emancipation Services

Method of assessment – Review of relevant documents and interviews

Sample size: One

Comments:

The child is attending school. The child is provided with educational support and resources to meet his educational needs, and is progressing satisfactorily in school. The Group Home's program includes the development of the child's daily living, self-help, and survival skills.

The child is provided with opportunities to participate in emancipation and vocational programs as appropriate.

Recommendations

There are no recommendations for this section.

IV. Recreation and Activities

Method of assessment – Review of relevant documents and interviews

Sample size: One

Comments:

The Group Home provides the child with sufficient recreational activities, and leisure time. The child is provided with opportunities to participate in planning activities.

The child participates in extra-curricular, enrichment, and social activities in which he has an interest.

The Group Home provides transportation to and from the activities.

Recommendations

There are no recommendations for this section.

V. Psychotropic Medication

Method of assessment – Review of relevant documents

Comments:

According to the Agency's management, there are currently no children taking psychotropic medications. This information is appropriately documented.

The child is aware of his right to refuse medication.

Recommendations

There are no recommendations for this section.

VI. Personal Rights

Method of assessment –Interviews with children

Sample size: One

Comments:

The child is informed about the Group Home's policies and procedures. The child reports that he feels safe in the Group Home, and is provided with appropriate staff supervision. The child expresses satisfaction with the quality of his interactions with staff, and reports that the staff treats him with respect and dignity.

The child reports that he is assigned chores that are reasonable and not too demanding. The child is able to make and receive personal telephone calls, send and

receive unopened mail, and have private visitors. The child is able to attend religious services of his choice.

The child reports that the discipline policies are consistently enforced and that there are fair and appropriate consequences for inappropriate behavior.

The child reports satisfaction with meals and snacks.

The child receives voluntary medical, dental, and psychiatric care.

Recommendations

There are no recommendations for this section.

VII. Clothing and Allowance

Method of assessment – Review of relevant documents and interviews

Sample size: One

Comments:

The Group Home provides appropriate clothing, items of necessity, and the required \$50 monthly clothing allowance to the child. The child is provided with opportunities to select their own clothes. Clothing provided to the child is of good quality and of sufficient quantity.

The Group Home provides the child with the required minimum weekly allowance. The child spends his allowance as he chooses.

The Group Home provides the child with adequate personal care items.

The child reports that he has not been offered a photo album/life book.

Recommendation

- 2. Ferree's Group Home management encourage and assist all children in creating and maintaining photo albums/life books.**

**Ferree's Group Homes, Incorporated
Ferree's Site Five Group Home
860 South 22nd Street
Banning, California 92220
Phone: (909) 849-2338
License Number: 336402245
Rate Classification Level: 11**

I. Facility and Environment

Method of assessment – Observation

Comments:

Ferree's Site Five Group Home is located in a residential community. The exterior of the Group Home is well maintained. The front and back yards are clean, and adequately landscaped.

The interior of the Group Home is well maintained. The common quarters are neat and clean. There is adequate furniture and lighting in the Group Home. The Group Home provides a home-like environment.

Children's bedrooms are well maintained. The rooms are clean and orderly, and have age-appropriate personalized decorations. There is adequate furniture, lighting, and storage space. Window coverings and window screens are in good repair. The mattresses are comfortable, and the beds all have a full complement of linens. Children's sleeping arrangements are appropriate.

The Group Home maintains age appropriate and accessible recreational equipment. There are also board games, a TV, and a DVD player. Books and resource materials, including a computer with a variety of programs, are also available.

The Group Home maintains a sufficient supply of perishable and non perishable foods.

Recommendations

There are no recommendations for this section.

II. Program Services

Method of assessment – Review of relevant documents and interviews

Sample size: One

Comments:

The child meets the Group Home's population criteria as outlined in their Program Statement. The child was assessed for needed services within thirty days of placement.

The Needs and Services Plans (NSPs) are current, comprehensive, and include short and long term goals. However, the group does not include the placement worker as part of the treatment team, and input from the child in the development and implementation of the NSPs.

Case files reflect adequate documentation to show that the child is receiving treatment services.

Recommendation

- 1. Ferree's Group Home management include the placement worker as part of the treatment team, and input from the child in the development and implementation of the NSPs.**

III. Educational and Emancipation Services

Method of assessment – Review of relevant documents and interviews

Sample size: One

Comments:

The child is attending school. The child is provided with educational support and resources to meet his educational needs, and is progressing satisfactorily in school. The Group Home's program includes the development of the child's daily living, self-help, and survival skills.

The child is provided with opportunities to participate in emancipation and vocational programs as appropriate.

Recommendations

There are no recommendations for this section.

IV. Recreation and Activities

Method of assessment – Review of relevant documents and interviews

Sample size: One

Comments:

The Group Home provides the child with sufficient recreational activities, and leisure time. The child is provided with opportunities to participate in planning activities.

The child participates in extra-curricular, enrichment, and social activities in which he has an interest.

The Group Home provides transportation to and from the activities.

Recommendations

There are no recommendations for this section.

V. Psychotropic Medication

Method of assessment – Review of relevant documents

Comments:

According to the Agency's management, there are currently no children taking psychotropic medications. This information is appropriately documented.

The child is aware of his right to refuse medication.

Recommendations

There are no recommendations for this section.

VI. Personal Rights

Method of assessment –Interviews with children

Sample size: One

Comments:

The child is informed about the Group Home's policies and procedures. The child reports that he feels safe in the Group Home, and is provided with appropriate staff

supervision. The child expresses satisfaction with the quality of his interactions with staff, and reports that the staff treats him with respect and dignity.

The child reports that he is assigned chores that are reasonable and not too demanding. The child is able to make and receive personal telephone calls, send and receive unopened mail, and have private visitors. The child is able to attend religious services of his choice.

The child reports that the discipline policies are consistently enforced and that there are fair and appropriate consequences for inappropriate behavior.

The child reports satisfaction with meals and snacks.

The child receives voluntary medical, dental, and psychiatric care.

Recommendations

There are no recommendations for this section.

VII. Clothing and Allowance

Method of assessment – Review of relevant documents and interviews

Sample size: One

Comments:

The Group Home provides appropriate clothing, items of necessity, and the required \$50 monthly clothing allowance to the child. The child is provided with opportunities to select their own clothes. Clothing provided to the child is of good quality and of sufficient quantity.

The Group Home provides the child with the required minimum weekly allowance. The child spends his allowance as he chooses.

The Group Home provides the child with adequate personal care items.

The child is encouraged and assisted in creating and maintaining a photo album/life book.

Recommendations

There are no recommendations for this section.

FERREE'S GROUP HOME, INC.**P.O. BOX 570, CABAZON , CA. 92230**

☐ 49991 Fuller St.
Cabazon Ca, 92230
(909) 849-0340
(909) 849-7666

☐ 14542 Mission St.
Cabazon Ca, 922230
(909) 849-5562
(909) 922-0863

☐ 2269 W. Nicolet St.
Banning Ca, 92220
(909) 849-1927
(909) 849-6888

☐ 1621 N Durward St.
Banning Ca, 92220
(909) 849-7066
(909) 849- 9855

☐ 860 S. 22nd St
Banning Ca, 92220
(909) 922-3554
(909) 849-8516

Date: May 1, 2006

To: Candace Rhue
Group Home Auditor Supervisor

From: Alisha Jones
Ferree's Group Home Administrator

Subject: CORRECTIVE ACTION PLAN

The current status of Ferree's Group Home Site #1 and #5: All recommendation have been implemented as of April 30, 06.

II. Program Services

Recommendation: The Needs And Service Plans must include the placement workers as part of the treatment team and input from the child in the development and implementation of the NSPs.

Method of Correction

1. Ferree's Group Home has implemented an Invitation Treatment Meeting Form. This form is used to invite the county social worker to the scheduled meetings.
2. Facility social worker will have the resident sign the Needs and Services Plan and facility manager will follow up with the placement workers input and Signature.

VII. Clothing and Allowance

Recommendation : To encourage management and assist all children in creating and updating photo albums/life books.

Method of Correction

1. Ferree's Group Home will assist all children in creating their personal life book.
2. Facility Manager will have generic books in place at the time of a new placement.
3. Facility Manager will assign a staff to assist residents in personalizing their books.
4. Facility Manager will do a monthly monitor of each book for progress.

Ferree's Group Home has implemented all of the recommended corrections.
For any questions please contact me at 951-922-3554.

Very truly yours,



Alisha Jones
Group Home Administrator

FERREE'S GROUP HOME, INC.

P.O. BOX 570, CABAZON, CA. 92230

☐ 49991 Fuller St.
Cabazon Ca, 92230
(909) 849-0340
(909) 849-7656

☐ 14542 Mission St.
Cabazon Ca, 922230
(909) 849-5562
(909) 922-0863

☐ 2269 W. Nicolet St.
Banning Ca, 92220
(909) 849-1927
(909) 849-6888

☐ 1621 N Durward St.
Banning Ca, 92220
(909) 849-7066
(909) 849- 9855

☐ 860 S. 22nd St
Banning Ca, 92220
(909) 922-3554
(909) 849-8516

TREATMENT TEAM MEETING
INVITATION

RESIDENT

D.O.B.

CASE WORKER

DATE

Three months will have elapsed since the APPRAISAL/NEEDS AND SERVICES TREATMENT PLAN QUARTERLY REVIEW was last developed or revised.

Even though the current plan was recently developed, there have been significant changes in the resident's adjustment/status requiring a revision in his APPRAISAL/NEEDS AND SERVICES TREATMENT PLAN QUARTERLY REVIEW.

The facility professional staff will therefore meet to revise APPRAISAL/NEEDS AND SERVICE TREATMENT PLAN QUARTERLY REVIEW for the above resident on _____, 20____

At _____ am/pm.

The meeting will be held at:

FACILITY NAME

STREET ADDRESS

CITY/ZIP CODE

Your input and involvement is important to us. Therefore, if the schedule date is inconvenient for you, Please inform us as soon as possible so that we may reschedule the meeting.

Please call _____ at (____) _____ - _____ to confirm or reschedule.